



ScienceDays: Certifying Organization

About the **President's Volunteer Service Award**

Dear ScienceDays Chapter Directors and Mentors:

We are pleased to announce our participation in the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD (PVSA) program as a Certifying Organization.

This new award is a Presidential honor that recognizes the valuable contributions of volunteers nationwide who are answering the President's call to serve others through their current volunteer activities or lifetime service. As a Certifying Organization, we will identify eligible recipients, verify their service hours, and distribute the AWARD to outstanding volunteers. There are three levels of awards, depending on your number of volunteer hours. You need 100-174 hours to qualify for Bronze, 175-249 hours to qualify for Silver, and more than 250 hours to qualify for Gold. (For details, see next page)

All chapter directors and mentors are eligible for this award. While we encourage all of you to apply, the application is completely optional, since the eligibility for the award requires an **immensely heavy** time commitment. It is, in no way, required as part of your participation in ScienceDays. If you have volunteered in ScienceDays this year but have not spent at least 100 hours in the organization, you are still eligible to apply for the DISTINGUISHED MENTOR or the DISTINGUISHED CHAPTER DIRECTOR awards. **If you are a chapter director, it is your responsibility to forward the information to your mentors!**

Please note that the while receiving the PVSA is a big honor, it is – in no way – competitive. We do not have a “quota” on the number of students receiving the award each year; whether or not you receive it completely depends on your own dedication, creativity, and accomplishments in the ScienceDays program.

Good luck! Don't hesitate to contact us (or each other) with any questions or concerns!

Best regards,

The ScienceDays National Board

Guidelines:

As applicants for the PVSA, you must keep track of your own volunteer hours and get it signed by the faculty sponsor of your chapter. You may count all hours spent working on ScienceDays activities, including—but not limited to—the following:

- Interviewing to become a chapter director
- Participating in the Summer Tour
- Recruiting members
- Fundraising!
- Brainstorming ideas for lesson plans
- Purchasing and obtaining lesson plans
- Consulting and talking with other mentors and directors regarding ScienceDays activities
- Teaching kids!
- Transportation to and from ScienceDays engagements
- Organizing and helping out at events
- Writing essays about ScienceDays, corresponding with teachers and community members about ScienceDays

Examples:

Date: September 17, 2010		# Hrs
Location	Glenwood Elementary School Chapel Hill, NC	4 (total)
Description of activity	I taught the lesson "Fingerprinting" with another mentor (Xianlin Li) to a class of 30 second graders during their after-school program. I was also responsible for obtaining lesson supplies. I also did a "test-run" for other mentors prior to delivering the lesson to kids.	
Date: October 2010		# Hrs
Location	Home	9 (total)
Description of activity	Over the course of the month, I sent out emails to school officials, local organizations (Name, name), companies (Name, name), and individuals to solicit funding for lesson supplies this year. I also called to follow up on promising funding sources.	
Date: March 15, 2011		# Hrs
Location	School	1.5
Description of activity	I went to the ScienceDays club meeting after school. We talked about future lesson plans, and we printed out posters to put around the school for recruiting members.	

Name:
Chapter:

Grade level:
Faculty Sponsor:

My Log:

Date:		# Hrs
Location		
Description of activity		

Date:		# Hrs
Location		
Description of activity		

Date:		# Hrs
Location		
Description of activity		

Date:		# Hrs
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Description of activity		

Date:		# Hrs
Location		
Description of activity		

Date:		# Hrs
Location		
Description of activity		

Total number of hours:
Approx. total number of kids you taught this year:

Signatures:

 Your signature

Your mailing address

By signing below, the faculty sponsor is acknowledging that the calculations of hours are accurate to the best of his/her knowledge.

 Signature of faculty sponsor

 Email address of faculty sponsor

3. Do you feel ScienceDays has had a significant impact on your community, and how do you aim to increase that impact in the future?

4. What do you feel sets ScienceDays apart from other organizations in your school or community? Why did you choose to volunteer for ScienceDays in particular?